Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital picture signal processing apparatus, comprising:

receiving means for receiving a captured picture signal;

picture processing means for processing the received picture signal;

mode designating means for generating a signal that designates the processing of the received picture signal into a first mode or a second mode;

determining means for determining whether the received picture signal is a natural image or a text image,

wherein the first mode is designated when the received picture signal is determined to be the natural image, and the second mode is designated when the received picture signal is determined to be the text image; and

digitizing means for digitizing the received picture signal,

wherein when the first mode is designated, said digitizing means is configured to use ~~using~~ 256 gray scales or 512 gray scales ~~when the first mode is designated~~, ~~and~~

wherein when the second mode is designated, said digitizing means is configured to use ~~using~~ two grayscales ~~when the second mode is designated~~, and

wherein enabling dynamic configuration of said digitizing means according to the result of said determining means allows substantially improved performance for said digital picture signal processing apparatus.

2. (Currently Amended) A digital picture recording apparatus for recording a picture as a digitized picture signal to a record medium, comprising:

picture capturing means for capturing the picture and generating a picture signal;

picture processing means for processing the captured picture signal;

mode designating means for generating a signal that designates the processing of the captured picture signal into a first mode or a second mode;

determining means for determining whether the captured picture signal is a natural image or a text image,

wherein the first mode is designated when the captured picture signal is determined to be the natural image, and the second mode is designated when the captured picture signal is determined to be the text image;

digitizing means for digitizing the received picture signal,

wherein when the first mode is designated, said digitizing means is configured to use ~~using~~ 256 gray scales or 512 gray scales ~~when the first mode is designated~~, ~~and~~

wherein when the second mode is designated, said digitizing means is configured to use ~~using~~ two grayscales ~~when the second mode is designated~~, and

wherein enabling dynamic configuration of said digitizing means according to the result of said determining means allows substantially improved performance for said digital picture signal processing apparatus;

compression means for compressing the digitized picture signal using a non-inversible encoding method when the first mode is designated, and using an inversible encoding method when the second mode is designated; and

recording means for recording the compressed picture signal to the record medium.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the captured picture signal is a color picture signal.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 49,

wherein the non-inversible encoding method is performed by compressing the digitized picture signal corresponding to an orthogonal transforming process and an entropy encoding process.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 49,

wherein the inversible encoding method is performed by registering a pattern of any length of a data stream to a dictionary and outputting a registered number as an encoded output signal when the same pattern takes place.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 50,

wherein said compression means converts the first compressed picture data and the second compressed picture data into respective files.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 6,

wherein the second compressed picture data is converted into a GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) file.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 7,

wherein said compression means performs a process for converting the digitized picture signal into an index value of a GIF color table at a time.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

reproducing means for reproducing the compressed picture signal recorded on the record medium,

wherein said picture recording apparatus decompresses the reproduced compressed picture signal, generates a reproduced picture, and displays the reproduced picture.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

enlarging means for enlarging the displayed reproduced picture.

11. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 10,

wherein said recording means records the enlarged picture to the record medium.

12. (Currently Amended) A digital picture signal processing method, comprising:

receiving a captured picture signal;

processing the received picture signal;

generating a signal that designates the processing of the received picture signal into a first mode or a second mode;

determining whether the received picture signal is a natural image or a text image,

wherein the first mode is designated when the received picture signal is determined to be the natural image, and the second mode is designated when the received picture signal is determined to be the text image; and

digitizing the received picture signal,

wherein when the first mode is designated, said digitizing uses ~~using~~ 256 gray scales or 512 gray scales ~~when the first mode is designated~~, ~~and~~

wherein when the second mode is designated, said digitizing uses ~~using~~ two grayscales ~~when the second mode is designated~~, and

wherein using two digitizing modes according to the result of said determining allows substantial improvement of said digital picture signal processing method.

13. (Currently Amended) A digital picture recording method for recording a picture as a digitized picture signal to a record medium, comprising:

capturing the picture and generating a picture signal;

processing the captured picture signal;

generating a signal that designates the processing of the captured picture signal into a first mode or a second mode;

determining whether the captured picture signal is a natural image or a text image,

wherein the first mode is designated when the captured picture signal is determined to be the natural image, and the second mode is designated when the captured picture signal is determined to be the text image;

digitizing the received picture signal,

wherein when the first mode is designated, said digitizing uses ~~using~~ 256 gray scales or 512 gray scales ~~when the first mode is designated~~, ~~and~~

wherein when the second mode is designated, said digitizing uses ~~using~~ two grayscales ~~when the second mode is designated~~, and

wherein using two digitizing modes according to the result of said determining allows substantial improvement of said digital picture signal processing method;

compressing the digitized picture signal using a non-inversible encoding method when the first mode is designated, and using an inversible encoding method when the second mode is designated; and

recording the compressed picture signal to the record medium.

14-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2,

wherein the captured picture signal is a color picture signal.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2,

wherein the non-inversible encoding method is performed by compressing a digital picture signal corresponding to an orthogonal transforming process and an entropy encoding process.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2,

wherein the inversible encoding method is performed by registering a pattern of any length of a data stream to a dictionary and outputting a registered number as an encoded output signal when the same pattern takes place.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 51,

wherein said compression means converts the first compressed picture data and the second compressed picture data into respective files.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 42,

wherein the second compressed picture data is converted into a GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) file.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 43,

wherein said compression means performs a process for converting the digitized picture signal into an index value of a GIF color table at a time.

45-48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising

compression means for compressing the digitized picture signal using a non-inversible encoding method when the first mode is designated, and using an inversible encoding method when the second mode is designated.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 49,

wherein said compression means generates first compressed picture data when the first mode is designated, and generates second compressed picture data when the second mode is designated.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 2,

wherein said compression means generates first compressed picture data when the first mode is designated, and generates second compressed picture data when the second mode is designated.